

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY WITH CUBAN CITIZENS FOR FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

SPEECH OF

HON. ALBIO SIRE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 3, 2021

Mr. SIRE. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be an original cosponsor and co-author of House Resolution 760, which demonstrates the United States' firm commitment to standing with the Cuban people.

On July eleventh, we witnessed an awakening in Cuba. It began in San Antonio de los Baños, just ten miles from Bejucal, the town where I was born, and then spread to over sixty towns and cities throughout Cuba. The Cuban people rose up and spoke with one voice to call for freedom. Cubans risked their lives by demonstrating against this repressive regime.

As members of the United States Congress, we must make clear that we stand with them. Many Cubans have paid a steep price for their courage. More than seven hundred people were detained or forcibly disappeared in the wake of the protests. This regime showed its true colors, firing live ammunition into crowds and using beatings, arbitrary arrests, and torture to try to stop people from protesting. It blocked internet access to prevent Cubans from communicating with each other and with the world. But I believe that the Cuban people can and will prevail.

These protests, while historic, did not emerge from thin air. For more than sixty years, the Cuban people have endured unspeakable suffering. But as the regime has expanded its repression to go after not just dissidents but also artists and academics and bloggers, a new generation of Cubans has shown its creativity and bravery. The San Isidro movement, which came together in response to a decree aimed at censoring artistic expression, has unlocked something very powerful. By bringing together artists, academics, and Cubans from all walks of life, the leaders of the San Isidro movement have shown the power of collective action to strip away the veneer that the regime tries to present to the world. Underneath the propaganda and the myths, we see a fragile and failed dictatorship that can only hold onto power through repression, corruption, and cynicism. The brutal treatment of the Associated Press journalist Ramon Espinosa showed just how desperate this regime is to hide the reality in Cuba from the rest of the world.

That desperation is the reason why the regime is now prohibiting planned protests for November 15th. The regime is threatening those who plan to demonstrate that they will face severe repercussions, even though they are merely asking to express themselves peacefully, as is their fundamental right.

The question before the U.S. Congress is whether we will answer the call of the Cuban

people. Will we acknowledge them and say "we see you, we hear you, and we are with you"? I hope the answer is yes.

As many of my colleagues know, I left Cuba at the age of eleven. Ever since then, I have never given up hope that one day Cuba would become a democracy. I will never stop fighting to help the Cuban people become free.

I thank my good friends, Congresswoman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ and Congressman DIAZ-BALART, for their leadership. And I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan resolution.

RECOGNIZING DR. KENNETH COOPER ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 2021

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Dr. Kenneth H. Cooper, recognized as the "Father of Aerobics." Born on March 4, 1931 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, his desire to practice preventative medicine was fostered by his father, who specialized in preventative dentistry. He would go on to receive his Bachelor of Science and Doctor of Medicine Degree from the University of Oklahoma and a Master of Public Health from Harvard University School of Public Health.

Prior to dedicating his life's work to fitness, Dr. Cooper served as a member of the U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force as a flight surgeon and Director of the Aerospace Medical Laboratory in San Antonio. During his 13 years of military service, he developed the Aerobic Point System as well as the 12-minute and 1.5-mile fitness tests used by military organizations, law enforcement agencies, and thousands of public schools and universities today. In partnership with NASA, he was likewise an integral part of creating the conditioning programs used to prepare astronauts for space.

After retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel, Dr. Cooper devoted his time to researching cardiovascular fitness and longevity. In 1970, he founded the Cooper Athletic Center in Dallas, Texas where he merged research with practice, revolutionizing health and fitness. The Cooper Institute has long been recognized as a leader in the fight against childhood obesity, partnering with several organizations to establish fitness programs in schools across the world.

A man of many accolades with years of knowledge, it is of little surprise his training helped lead the 1970 Brazilian Soccer team to victory in the World Cup.

As a pioneer in preventative medicine, Dr. Cooper has received more than 70 awards and honors. He has authored 19 books and is responsible for the addition of the word "Aerobics" in the Oxford English Dictionary.

While Dr. Cooper's professional and academic career has been filled with great

achievements, it is his family that most inspires him. Dr. Cooper and his wife, Millie, were blessed with a daughter, Berkley, and a son, Tyler. Dr. Cooper and his family set an example by actively practicing what they preach and working to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Dr. Cooper himself successfully completed his first marathon in 1962 and has since logged more than 38,000 miles running.

Now as we recognize Dr. Kenneth Cooper, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring his rich life and legacy.

HONORING SAN ANTONIO VETERAN JESSE VIDALES

HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 2021

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Jesse Vidales who hails from my hometown of San Antonio, Texas. Mr. Vidales celebrated his 100th birthday this past August. Born and raised in San Antonio's Westside, Mr. Vidales emulates what it means to be a proud San Antonian. I am truly honored to recognize him this Veterans Day.

Mr. Jesse Vidales was born on August 9, 1921 to Mr. Jose Ramos Vidales and Mrs. Maria Rios. At the time, Westside San Antonio experienced widespread poverty. Through their tireless efforts, the Vidales family rose above, knowing that education was the surest path to success. During the height of World War II, Mr. Vidales enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corp where he served with Army Intelligence until the end of the war. After, Mr. Vidales married the love of his life, Mrs. Victoria Perez Vidales, and followed in his father's architectural footsteps and became a successful contractor for more than 50 years.

Madam Speaker, please join me in commemorating the life of Mr. Jesse Vidales. I wish Jesse a happy 100th birthday and Happy Veterans Day. He has reached a milestone, and I thank him for his service to our country and community. May God bless and watch over him.

HONORING EDWARD LONGENECKER ON HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. MICHAEL CLOUD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 2021

Mr. CLOUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Edward Longenecker and wish him a happy 100th birthday. Mr. Longenecker is a WWII veteran that has a steadfast love and devotion to God, his family, and country. He is from my hometown of Victoria, Texas. I

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

want to thank him for his service in the United States Army Air Corps as a Radio Operator and Nose Gunner on the B-24 bomber in the 451st Bomb Group, 726th Squadron.

During WWII on July 14, 1944, he and his fellow airman traveled to Petturdo, Hungary for their 29th combat mission. They expected it to be an easy mission but began receiving anti-aircraft fire that took out two of the aircraft's engines. From the nose gunner position, he received word that they were dropping elevation very quickly. The pilot made the call, urging everyone to jump. Mr. Longenecker headed to the flight deck to retrieve his parachute. On the flight deck, he saw his ball gunner about to jump and gave him a "good luck" salute. Then Mr. Longenecker jumped.

Everyone who jumped before him was captured but he landed on top of a hill and began taking on heavy fire from Yugoslav soldiers that were sympathetic to the Germans. He made his way to a nearby forest line, crawled under a briar bush, and stayed under the bush until nightfall. The first night he slept near a lake. The second night he stayed in a pile of loose hay, where he could hear a group of people playing the guitar and singing. To him, this was one of the most beautiful sounds he had heard simply because there wasn't a sign of war anywhere. On the third day, he ran out of the wood cover and met a young boy. This boy took him to a nearby village where he ate, bathed, and rested. Later, Mr. Longenecker was taken to a house where an American Lieutenant was waiting. Upon his safe arrival, he was informed that he had walked through an active minefield, unscathed.

It is incredible to think of how a life that could have been cut short has lasted 100 years. After serving in the military, Ed Longenecker became an electrical engineer and lived a long full life, married to his wife Marie for 59 years until she passed away in 2006. He has 2 daughters, 5 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren.

Edward Longenecker is a true American hero, and we are indebted to him for his great service to our Nation. I am proud to honor him today, and I hope he has a wonderful 100th birthday.

HONORING THE LIFE OF EDWARD COLSTON NEWTON IV

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 2021

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, it is with deep sadness but great respect that I take this time to remember Edward Colston Newton IV of Warsaw, Virginia, who passed away on November 3, 2021. "Colston" to his loved ones, he was a man not only known for his love of family and their farm, but for the Commonwealth of Virginia and the United States.

Colston was born in Louisville, Kentucky to Edward Colston Newton III and Janet Daingerfield Van Winkle. He was a graduate of Warwick High School, the College of William & Mary, and the Marshall Wythe School of Law, joining the Army Judge Advocate Corps upon his graduation. Most notably, Colston was part of the prosecution of the Mai Lai Massacre in Vietnam. Following his release from the Army, he went on to serve as

counsel with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) during the Ford and Carter Administrations.

After Colston's service with the OMB, he went on to a private practice, then became a private practitioner, and later, a Commonwealth's Attorney for Westmoreland County. Once he no longer practiced law, Colston became a freelance journalist, winning various awards for his distinct and strong writing style.

Colston had a passion for fly fishing and nurtured his children and nephews' enjoyment of the pastime. His love for the scenic beauty of Virginia was second to his love for family.

Colston is survived by his sisters Lawrence "Ludie" Newton Stevens, Elizabeth Daingerfield Newton Beam, and Mary Dillon Suirs, his son John Tyler Newton (Shannon), his daughter Cynthia Macomber Newton, his companion Jayne McQuarde, 7 grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his son Edward Colston Newton V, who served in the U.S. Army with the Asymmetric Warfare Group, and lost his battle to cancer on July 11, 2018.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me and countless others as we recognize the life of Edward Colston Newton.

IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. AURORA SORIANO CUDAL-RIVERA, NATIONAL FEDERATION OF FILIPINO AMERICAN ASSOCIATIONS (NAFFAA), SAN DIEGO AND IMPERIAL REGION

HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 2021

Mr. VARGAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Aurora Soriano Cudal-Rivera of the National Federation of Filipino American Associations (NaFFAA), San Diego and Imperial Region. Mrs. Cudal-Rivera has served this organization and many others as a community organizer and social justice advocate for the last several decades.

Mrs. Cudal-Rivera has been recognized for her long years of service as an inductee to the San Diego County Women's Hall of Fame in 2013 and California Legislature Woman of the Year in both 1999 and 2016.

During her professional career in the Philippines, Mrs. Cudal-Rivera served in public health education in both government and non-government institutions for 40 years. She was the first woman from Asia to receive a UNESCO Fellowship on "Problems Related to the Use of Drugs," which granted her a four-month travel to Denmark, Netherlands, France and Switzerland. She has volunteered for the United Methodist Church, and was elected as the World Secretary of the World Federation of Methodist Women at the International Assembly of Methodist Women in 1991.

Mrs. Cudal-Rivera came to retire in Chula Vista, California in 1992. Now an octogenarian, she is still active with NaFFAA, Council of Philippine American Associations of San Diego County, San Diego Executive Lions Club, Filipino American Women's Club, Committee on Social Responsibility of the Community Congregational Church of Chula Vista, and the Congregational Tower Resident's Association, an independent living facility where she currently resides.

Mrs. Cudal-Rivera is to be honored for all her service to the community, her church, and her mentorship to the younger generation—making a positive and long-lasting difference.

CELEBRATING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

HON. LISA BLUNT ROCHESTER

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 2021

Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate the anniversary of the Delaware River Basin Commission. Sixty years ago this month, President John F. Kennedy gathered with the Governors of New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and Delaware, as equal partners to sign the Delaware River Basin Compact, which created the Delaware River Basin Commission.

For six decades, the Commission has carefully balanced the economic and environmental needs of the public, setting a model for the nation and the world on how to manage a vital, common resource. As we continue to battle the impacts of climate change, it is more important than ever to work together to maintain the health of the Delaware River Basin and the communities it serves.

I congratulate and thank the Delaware River Basin Commission for all that they do.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GLENN THOMPSON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, on November 4, 2021, I was unable to cast my vote for H.R. 3992, the Protecting Older Job Applicants Act.

Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 358.

SALUTING THE CAREER OF BARBARA RYAN

HON. DARRELL ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 2021

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a community leader who is retiring after four decades of service to the people of San Diego County.

Over the last three decades, Barbara Ryan has served as Vice President of Government Affairs at Rady Children's Hospital, a Level 1 Pediatric Trauma Center that is the largest children's hospital in California serving patients from San Diego, Riverside, and Imperial Counties. Rady is a thriving hub of the region's healthcare system that employs more than 700 physicians, 1,000 nurses, 3,000 employees, 450 active volunteers and 1,200 auxiliary staff. Barbara has been a powerful and successful advocate for children and healthcare, for the region's healthcare systems and providers, and for patients. She is among